

Appendix G. WILDLIFE WITHIN THE NATIONAL MONUMENT

American Badger (*Taxidea taxus* – *Federal Species of Concern*) The badger has a broad distribution across the United States. It occurs in open habitats where the soil is loose enough for digging burrows. This mustelid spends much of its time in its burrow.

Black Swift (*Cypseloides niger* – *State Species of Special Concern*) This bird is a rare and very local summer resident in mountain foothill canyons, with most of them arriving after early May. Rare and irregular transient to southern California. Known nesting locations within the National Monument include Tacquitz Canyon. Summer residents generally use higher elevation closed canopy forests for foraging on aerial insects.

Black-tailed Gnatcatcher (*Polioptila melanura* – *Federal Species of Concern*)

Casey's June Beetle (*Dinacoma caseyi*, *Endemic*) Casey's June beetle has an extremely limited distribution that includes the alluvial plains bordering the San Jacinto and Santa Rosa Mountains along the southern edge of the Coachella Valley. At present it is known from only two specific locations in the south Palm Springs area. One location is at the junction of South Palm Canyon Drive and Bogert Trail, on private land. A second location is within the Smoke Tree Ranch development, south of Highway 111 and east of Sunrise Road. Potential habitat has been described in this vicinity on land within the Agua Caliente Indian Reservation but the species has not been detected there in recent surveys.

The Casey's June beetle emerges and "swarms" in mid-to-late spring (usually late May through June). They generally fly on warm nights when temperatures at dusk are 70° F, when daytime temperatures range from 90° to 100° F. The males fly swiftly over the ground from dusk to shortly after dark in search of flightless females. A larval food plant may be cheesebush, *Hymenoclea salsola*, as females have been collected immediately below this plant.

Coachella Valley Giant Sand Treader Cricket (*Macrobaenetes valgum*, *Endemic*)

The Coachella Valley giant sand treader cricket occurs exclusively in the active sand hummocks and dunes in the Coachella Valley. Suitable habitat occurs within the Whitewater River Floodplain Preserve and at the Coachella Valley Preserve. These crickets have been observed at Snow Creek and Windy Point, both locations are within the boundaries of the Monument. The distinctive cone-shaped excavation tailings of this species' diurnal burrows can be easily identified and used to confirm this species occurrence at a given location (C. Barrows, 1998); these distinctive excavations have been observed at the Snow Creek and Windy Point locations. Sand treader crickets use the same habitat types as Coachella Valley fringe-toed lizards and are subject to similar threats of urbanization and loss of habitat.

Coachella Valley Jerusalem Cricket (*Stenopelmatus calhouni*, *Endemic*)

The Coachella Valley Jerusalem Cricket is known from the Snow Creek area from Fingal's Finger east to Windy Point, and remnants of sand dune habitat around the Palm Springs Airport. They occur in sandy to somewhat gravelly sandy soils and have been called an obligate sand species. They do not necessarily require active blow sand habitat but have been found in loose wind blown drift sands, dunes, and sand in vacant lots if native vegetation exists. They have been found associated with the roots of members of the sunflower family, including *Ambrosia* sp. and *Encelia* sp. (Weissman and Ballmer, pers. communication).

Coachella Valley Ground Squirrel, *Spermophilus tereticaudus chlorus*, Endemic and State Species of Special Concern) The Coachella Valley ground squirrel is a subspecies of the round-tailed ground squirrel which occurs in the Coachella Valley and is associated with sandy substrates. Barrows (2001) suggests that they are most abundant in more mesic sand dune habitats, often associate with mesquite hummocks. They may also be found in areas where sandy substrates occur in creosote bush scrub and desert saltbush or desert sink scrub that supports herbaceous growth. In addition to wind blown sand habitats, they may occur in areas of more coarse sands, associated with washes. According to Mark Fisher of the University of California Deep Canyon Desert Research Center, the Palm Springs ground squirrel used to occur on this reserve in sandy patches associated with washes and was reported from 1979 to 1984 (see known locations data for this species). He indicated that this ground squirrel has not been observed in the Deep Canyon area since the 1980's when the sandy substrates were removed by a large flood event and have not been restored. According to Ryan (1965) the highest concentrations of this species in the Deep Canyon area were not in aeolian dunes but in areas of somewhat coarser sand, slightly pebbly ground cover, or packed silt. Habitat for this species within the National Monument is restricted to the northwestern edge near Fingal's Finger and Windy Point.

Coachella Valley Jerusalem Cricket (*Stenopelmatus cahuiensis* – Federal Species of Concern) The Coachella Valley Jerusalem Cricket is known to occur on the Monument from the Snow Creek area from Fingal's Finger east to Windy Point. They occur in sandy to somewhat gravelly sandy soils and have been called an obligate sand species. They do not necessarily require active blow sand habitat but have been found in loose wind blown drift sands, dunes, and sand in vacant lots if native vegetation exists. They have been found associated with the roots of members of the sunflower family, including *Ambrosia* sp. and *Encelia* sp. (Weissman and Ballmer, pers. comm.). Coachella Valley Jerusalem crickets use habitat similar to the other sand species listed above and are subject to similar threats of urbanization and habitat loss.

Coastal Rosy Boa (*Lichanura trivirgata rosafusca* – Federal Species of Concern)

The rosy boa is widely but sparsely distributed in desert and chaparral habitats throughout southern California, south of Los Angeles, from the coast to the Mojave and Colorado deserts. It is absent in extreme eastern California and in the vicinity of the Salton Sea. In coastal areas it inhabits rocky chaparral-covered hillsides and canyons, while in the desert it is found on scrub flats with good cover and in the mountains. It is a secretive snake and little is known about seasonality, but it is most frequently encountered in late spring and early summer.

Cooper's Hawk (*Accipiter cooperii* – State Species of Special Concern)

Crissal Thrasher (*Toxostoma crissali*, BLM Sensitive Species, State Species of Special Concern) Crissal thrasher is a ground-dwelling relative of the mockingbird that occurs in the Plan area in desert saltbush scrub and mesquite hummock areas. There are only a few recorded observations of Crissal Thrasher within the Monument. Habitat models developed for the Coachella Valley Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan illustrate that potential habitat for this species may exist within the Monument. Records compiled by the US Geologic Survey indicate that Crissal thrasher is uncommon in southern California.

Gray Vireo (*Vireo vicinior* , BLM Sensitive Species, State Species of Special Concern)

The gray vireo is a small passerine about the size of a house sparrow that inhabits arid, shrub-covered slopes in pinyon-juniper, juniper, and chamise-redshank chaparral habitats on foothills

and mesas. Suitable habitat typically occurs from 2,000 to 6,500 feet (600-2,000 m) (Zeiner et al. 1990). In its preferred habitat it is found in areas with sparse to moderate cover and scattered small trees. While junipers are the dominant tree occurring in gray vireo habitat, oaks may also be common. In the San Jacinto and Santa Rosa Mountains, the gray vireo is known to occur from Mountain Center to Pinyon Flat and Sugarloaf Mountain. Regular surveys for this species have not been conducted. It is suspected that nest parasitism by cowbirds is contributing to the rangewide decline of this species (California Department of Fish and Game).

Le Conte's Thrasher (*Toxostoma lecontei*, BLM Sensitive Species, State Species of Special Concern) Le Conte's Thrasher is medium sized bird, with a long, decurved bill, gray-brown plumage and long dark tail. Le Conte's thrasher has a widespread but rare permanent resident in the western and southern San Joaquin Valley, upper Kern River Basin, Owens Valley, Mojave Desert, and Colorado Desert (Grinnell and Miller 1944). Densities even in optimum habitat are five pairs or less per square mile (Sheppard 1970), an extremely low density for any passerine bird. Many areas with seemingly suitable habitat lack this species (Remsen, Cardiff, and Cardiff MS).

Within its range, distribution is patchy. Its elevational distribution is generally between sea level and 1,150 meters. The species requires undisturbed substrate for foraging under desert shrubs. Within the Monument, Le Conte's thrasher occurs on the alluvial fans that occur along the northeastern boundary.

Pratt's dark aurora blue butterfly, (*Euphilotes enoptes cryptorufes*, No Status) There is little distributional data available for this species. However, it is known to occur in the higher elevations within the Monument and is generally associated with shrubland and chaparral habitats.

Southern yellow bat (*Lasiurus ega* or *xanthinus*, State Species of Special Concern). The Southern yellow bat is a fairly large member of the Vespertilionidae family, with yellowish brown fur and no hair on its muzzle or lips. It is a California state species of concern. The San Jacinto and Santa Rosa Mountains are very important to this species due to its close association to palm oases, which exist in the lower elevation canyons. The Southern yellow bat uses the dead fronds of palm trees for roosting and probably forms small maternity groups within them. Preserving palm oases sheltered in desert canyons is considered significant in the conservation of this species.

Summer tanager (*Piranga rubra cooperi*, BLM Sensitive Species, State Species of Special Concern)

The summer tanager is a dark red bird with a medium sized stout bill that is uncommon (formerly common) summer resident and breeder in desert riparian habitat along the lower Colorado River; also occurs very locally elsewhere in southern California deserts, including desert washes in the National Monument during migration. There are no breeding records for this species in the National Monument.

Yellow-breasted Chat (*Icteria virens*, BLM Sensitive Species, State Species of Special Concern)

The yellow-breasted chat is the largest warbler with a thick bill, white spectacles and yellow throat and breast. Desert wash woodlands and canyons containing palm oases have been modeled as potential breeding and migration habitat within the Monument for this species.

Yellow Warbler (*Dendroica petechia brewsteri*, BLM Sensitive Species, State Species of Special Concern)

This small, yellow warbler is usually found in riparian deciduous habitats in summer: cottonwoods, willows, alders, and other small trees and shrubs typical of low, open-canopy riparian woodland. This species may breed in open conifer forests and is also known to use desert wash woodland habitats during migration. Modeled habitat within the National Monument includes desert wash woodlands (migratory habitat) and palm oases and riparian areas (breeding habitat). This species has been observed within the National Monument. Numbers of breeding pairs have declined dramatically in recent decades in many lowland areas. Conservation and management of riparian areas within the Monument is important for the conservation of this species.

Sensitive Wildlife Species of the National Monument

SSC = State Species of Special Concern

SP = State Protected Species

FS= Forest Service Sensitive Species

BLM = Bureau of Land Management Sensitive Species

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	STATUS
Black Swift	<i>Cypseloides niger</i>	SSC
Black-tailed Gnatcatcher	<i>Polioptila melanura</i>	FS
Burrowing Owl	<i>Speotyto cunicularia</i>	BLM
California Spotted Owl	<i>Strix occidentalis occidentalis</i>	SSC
Casey's June Beetle	<i>Dinacoma caseyi</i>	None
Coachella Valley Giant Sand Treader Cricket	<i>Macrobaenetes valgum</i>	None
Cooper's Hawk	<i>Accipiter cooperii</i>	SSC
Coachella Valley Jerusalem Cricket	<i>Stenopelmatus cahuilaensis</i>	None
Coachella Valley Round-tailed Ground Squirrel	<i>Spermophilus tereticaudus chlorus</i>	SSC
Coastal Rosy Boa	<i>Lichanura trivirgata rosafusca</i>	FS
Crissal Thrasher	<i>Toxostoma crissali</i>	SSC
Flat-tailed Horned Lizard	<i>Phrynosoma mcallii</i>	SSC
Gray Vireo	<i>Vireo vicinior</i>	SSC, BLM
Hammond's Two-striped Garter Snake	<i>Thamnophis hammondi hamondii</i>	SSC, SP
Large-blotched Ensatina	<i>Ensatina eschscholtzii klauberi</i>	SSC
Le Conte's Thrasher	<i>Toxostoma lecontei</i>	SSC, BLM
Lewis' Woodpecker	<i>Melanerpes lewis</i>	FS
Long-eared Owl	<i>Asio otus</i>	SSC
Mountain Lion	<i>Puma concolor</i>	FS
Northern Goshawk	<i>Accipiter gentiles</i>	SSC
Palm Springs Pocket Mouse	<i>Perognathus longimembris bangsi</i>	None
Prairie Falcon	<i>Falco mexicanus</i>	SSC
Pratt's Blue Butterfly	<i>Euphilotes enoptes cryptorufes</i>	None
Purple Martin	<i>Progne subis</i>	SSC
San Bernardino Flying Squirrel	<i>Glaucomys sabrinus californicus</i>	SSC
San Bernardino Ringneck Snake	<i>Diadophis punctatus modestus</i>	FS
San Diego Horned Lizard	<i>Phrynosoma coronatum blainvillii</i>	SSC, SP

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COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	STATUS
San Diego Mountain Kingsnake	<i>Lampropeltis zonata pulchra</i>	SSC, SP
San Diego Ringneck Snake	<i>Diadophis punctatus similis</i>	FS
Silvery Legless Lizard	<i>Aniella pulchra pulchra</i>	SSC
Sharp-shinned Hawk	<i>Accipiter striatus</i>	SSC
Southern Yellow Bat	<i>Lasiurus ega (xanthinus)</i>	SSC
Summer Tanager	<i>Piranga rubra cooperi</i>	SSC
Swainson's Thrush	<i>Catharus ustulatus</i>	FS
Turkey Vulture	<i>Cathartes aura</i>	FS
White-tailed Kite	<i>Elanus leucurus</i>	SP
Wilson's Warbler	<i>Wilsonia pusilla</i>	FS
Yellow-breasted Chat	<i>Icteria virens</i>	SSC
Yellow Warbler	<i>Dendroica petechia brewsteri</i>	SSC

Common Wildlife Species of the National Monument

	Common Name	Scientific Name
Reptiles and	Banded Rock Lizard	<i>Petrosaurus mearnsi</i>
Amphibians	California Treefrog	<i>Hyla cadaverina</i>
	California Mountain Kingsnake	<i>Lampropeltis zonata</i>
	California Whipsnake	<i>Masticophis lateralis</i>
	Coachella Valley Fringe-toed Lizard	<i>Uma inornata</i>
	Coachwhip	<i>Masticophis flagellum</i>
	Coast Horned Lizard	<i>Phrynosoma coronatum</i>
	Common Garter Snake	<i>Thamnophis sirtalis</i>
	Common Kingsnake	<i>Lampropeltis getulus</i>
	Desert slender salamander	<i>Batrachoseps aridus</i>
	Gopher Snake	<i>Pituophis melanoleucus</i>
	Granite Night Lizard	<i>Xantusia henshawi</i>
	Granite Spiny Lizard	<i>Sceloporous orcutti</i>
	Leaf-toed Gecko	<i>Phyllodactylus xanti</i>
	Pacific Treefrog	<i>Hyla regilla</i>
	Racer	<i>Coluber constrictor</i>
	Ringneck Snake	<i>Diadophis punctatus</i>
	Sagebrush Lizard	<i>Sceloporus graciosus</i>
	Side-blotched Lizard	<i>Uta stansburiana</i>
	Southern Alligator Lizard	<i>Gerrhonotus multicarinatus</i>
	Specked Rattlesnake	<i>Crotalus mitchellii</i>
	Western Fence Lizard	<i>Sceloporus occidentalis</i>
	Western Skink	<i>Eumeces skiltonianus</i>
	Western Rattlesnake	<i>Crotalus viridis</i>
	Western Toad	<i>Bufo boreas</i>
	Western Whiptail	<i>Cnemidophorous tigris</i>
Birds	Acorn Woodpecker	<i>Melanerpes formicivorus</i>

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	Allen's Hummingbird	
	Anna's Hummingbird	<i>Calypte anna</i>
	American Kestrel	<i>Falco sparveriusg</i>
	American Robin	<i>Turdus migratorius</i>
	Band-tailed Pigeon	<i>Columba fasciata</i>
	Barn Owl	<i>Tyto alba</i>
	Black Phoebe	<i>Sayornis nigricans</i>
	Brewer's Blackbird	<i>Euphagus cyanocephalus</i>
	Brown-headed Cowbird	<i>Molothrus ater</i>
	Bushtit	<i>Psaltiriparus minimus</i>
	California Thrasher	<i>Toxostoma redivivum</i>
	California Quail	<i>Callipepla californica</i>
	Calliope Hummingbird	<i>Stellula calliope</i>
	Cliff Swallow	<i>Hirundo pyrrhonota</i>
	Clark's Nutcracker	<i>Nucifraga columbiana</i>
	Crissal Thrasher	<i>Toxostoma crissali</i>
	Dark-eyed Junco	<i>Junco hyemalis</i>
	Downy Woodpecker	<i>Picoides arcticus</i>
	European Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>
	Fox Sparrow	<i>Passerella iliaca</i>
	Great-horned Owl	<i>Bubo virginianus</i>
	Hairy Woodpecker	<i>Picoided villisus</i>
	House Finch	<i>Carpodacus mexicanus</i>
	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>
	Lesser Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis psaltria</i>
	Mountain Bluebird	<i>Sialia currucoides</i>
	Mountain Chickadee	<i>Parys gambeli</i>
	Mountain Quail	<i>Oreortyx pictus</i>
	Mourning Dove	<i>Zenaida macroura</i>
	Northern Flicker	<i>Colaptes auratus</i>
	Oak Titmouse	
	Pied-billed Grebe	<i>Podilymbus podiceps</i>
	Pine Siskin	<i>Carduelis pinus</i>
	Pinyon Jay	<i>Gymnorhinus cyanocephalus</i>
	Plain Titmouse	<i>Parus inornatus</i>
	Purple Finch	<i>Carpodacus purpureus</i>
	Pygmy Nuthatch	<i>Sitta pygmaea</i>
	Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>
	Red-breasted Nuthatch	<i>Sitta canadensis</i>
	Red-breasted Sapsucker	<i>Sphyrapicus rubber</i>
	Red-tailed Hawk	<i>Buteo jamaicensis</i>
	Rock Wren	<i>Salpinctes obsoletus</i>

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	Rufous-sided Towhee	<i>Pipila erythrophthalmus</i>
	Say's Phoebe	<i>Sayornis saya</i>
	Scrub Jay	<i>Aphelocoma coerulescens</i>
	Song Sparrow	<i>Melospiza melodia</i>
	Stellar's Jay	<i>Cyanocitta stelleri</i>
	Western Bluebird	<i>Sialia mexicana</i>
	Western Meadowlark	<i>Sturnella neglecta</i>
	Western Screech Owl	<i>Otus kennicottii</i>
	White-breasted Nuthatch	<i>Sitta carolinensis</i>
	White-headed Woodpecker	<i>Picoides albolarvatus</i>
	White-throated Swift	<i>Aeronautes saxatalis</i>
	Yellow-rumped Warbler	<i>Dendroica coronata</i>
	Bewick's Wren	<i>Thryomanes bewickii</i>
	Black-headed Grosbeak	<i>Pheucticus melanocephalus</i>
Birds (Summer)		
	Crissal Thrasher	<i>Toxostoma crissali</i>
	House Wren	<i>Troglodytes aedon</i>
	Olive-sided Flycatcher	<i>Contopus borealis</i>
	Summer Tanager	<i>Piranga rubra cooperi</i>
	Violet-green Swallow	<i>Tachycineta thalassina</i>
	Western Tanager	<i>Piranga ludoviciana</i>
	Western Wood Pewee	<i>Contopus sordidulus</i>
	Hermit Thrush	<i>Catharus guttatus</i>
	Townsend's Solitaire	<i>Myadestes townsendii</i>
Birds (Winter)	White-crowned Sparrow	<i>Zonotrichia leucophrys</i>
	Big Brown Bat	<i>Eptesicus fuscus</i>
	Bobcat	<i>Lynx rufus</i>
Mammals	California Ground Squirrel	<i>Citellus beecheyi</i>
	California Pocket Mouse	<i>Perognathus californicus</i>
	California Vole	<i>Microtus californicus</i>
	Coyote	<i>Canis latrans</i>
	Deer Mouse	<i>Peromyscus maniculatus</i>
	Dusky-footed Woodrat	<i>Neotoma fuscipes</i>
	Gray Fox	<i>Urocyon cinereoargenteus</i>
	Harvest Mouse	<i>Reithrodontomys megalotis</i>
	Hoary Bat	<i>Lasiurus cinereus</i>
	Little Brown Bat	<i>Myotis lucifugus</i>
	Merriam Chipmunk	<i>Eutamias merriami</i>
	Mexican Free-tailed Bat	<i>Tadarida brasiliensis</i>
	Mule Deer	<i>Odocoileus hemionus</i>

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	Opossum	<i>Didelphis marsupialis</i>
	Raccoon	<i>Procyon lotor</i>
	Northern Flying Squirrel	<i>Glaucomys sabrinus</i>
	Striped Skunk	<i>Mephitis Mephitis</i>
	Valley Pocket Gopher	<i>Thomomys bottae</i>
	Western Big-eared Bat	<i>Plecotus townsendi</i>
	Western Gray Squirrel	<i>Sciurus griseus</i>
	Western Mastiff Bat	<i>Eumops perotis</i>
	White-footed mice	<i>Peromyscus spp.</i>

